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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEVADA

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SHERRIE STEVENS,

Plaintiff,

v.

NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF
CORRECTIONS, et. al.,

Defendants.

Case No. 2:18-cv-01003-RFB-NJK

ORDER

This action is a *pro se* civil rights complaint filed pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983 by a former state prisoner. On February 21, 2019, this Court issued an order directing Plaintiff to file her updated address with this Court by March 25, 2019. (ECF No. 3.) This deadline has passed, and Plaintiff has not updated her address or otherwise responded to the Court's order.

District courts have the inherent power to control their dockets and “[i]n the exercise of that power, they may impose sanctions including, where appropriate . . . dismissal” of a case. *Thompson v. Hous. Auth. of City of Los Angeles*, 782 F.2d 829, 831 (9th Cir. 1986). A court may dismiss an action, with prejudice, based on a party's failure to prosecute an action, failure to obey a court order, or failure to comply with local rules. See *Ghazali v. Moran*, 46 F.3d 52, 53-54 (9th Cir. 1995) (dismissal for noncompliance with local rule); *Ferdik v. Bonzelet*, 963 F.2d 1258, 1260-61 (9th Cir. 1992) (dismissal for failure to comply with an order requiring amendment of complaint); *Carey v. King*, 856 F.2d 1439, 1440-41 (9th Cir. 1988) (dismissal for failure to comply with local rule requiring *pro se* plaintiffs to keep court apprised of address); *Malone v. U.S. Postal Service*, 833 F.2d 128, 130 (9th Cir. 1987) (dismissal for failure to comply with court order); *Henderson*

1 *v. Duncan*, 779 F.2d 1421, 1424 (9th Cir. 1986) (dismissal for lack of prosecution and
2 failure to comply with local rules).

3 In determining whether to dismiss an action for lack of prosecution, failure to obey
4 a court order, or failure to comply with local rules, the court must consider several factors:
5 (1) the public's interest in expeditious resolution of litigation; (2) the court's need to
6 manage its docket; (3) the risk of prejudice to the defendants; (4) the public policy favoring
7 disposition of cases on their merits; and (5) the availability of less drastic alternatives.
8 *Thompson*, 782 F.2d at 831; *Henderson*, 779 F.2d at 1423-24; *Malone*, 833 F.2d at 130;
9 *Ferdik*, 963 F.2d at 1260-61; *Ghazali*, 46 F.3d at 53.

10 In the instant case, the Court finds that the first two factors, the public's interest in
11 expeditiously resolving this litigation and the Court's interest in managing the docket,
12 weigh in favor of dismissal. The third factor, risk of prejudice to Defendants, also weighs
13 in favor of dismissal, since a presumption of injury arises from the occurrence of
14 unreasonable delay in filing a pleading ordered by the court or prosecuting an action. See
15 *Anderson v. Air West*, 542 F.2d 522, 524 (9th Cir. 1976). The fourth factor – public policy
16 favoring disposition of cases on their merits – is greatly outweighed by the factors in favor
17 of dismissal discussed herein. Finally, a court's warning to a party that her failure to obey
18 the court's order will result in dismissal satisfies the "consideration of alternatives"
19 requirement. *Ferdik*, 963 F.2d at 1262; *Malone*, 833 F.2d at 132-33; *Henderson*, 779
20 F.2d at 1424. The Court's order requiring Plaintiff to file her updated address with the
21 Court expressly stated: "If Plaintiff does not update the Court with her current address no
22 later than March 25, 2019, the Court will dismiss this action without prejudice." (ECF No.
23 3.) Thus, Plaintiff had adequate warning that dismissal would result from her
24 noncompliance with the Court's order to file her updated address.

25 IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that this action is dismissed without prejudice
26 based on Plaintiff's failure to file an updated address in compliance with this Court's
27 February 21, 2019 order.

28 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the application to proceed *in forma pauperis* is
denied as moot.

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IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that that the Clerk of Court shall enter judgment and close the case accordingly.

DATED this 3rd day of April, 2019.



RICHARD F. BOULWARE, II
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE